ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 4, 2026 | The Epiphany of the Lord | Painting By: Matthias Stom

FROM OUR PRIESTS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Blessed Sunday to you all! Today's celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany is all about the revelation of Jesus as the Messiah and rightful King of Israel and of the nations. The coming of the Magi to Bethlehem, following the light of the star, illustrates for us that Jesus is the light of the nations and also the proper response to that light. This feast teaches us many lessons in living the life of discipleship, but I will simply offer three from our readings for you to consider this week.

When Jesus was born, a miraculous star was placed in the sky to manifest His coming, not just to the Jews but to all the nations. The Magi, who seem to be the only ones who notice and understand the meaning of this heavenly sign, travel to Jerusalem to visit the newborn King. They cannot, however, find Him only by their own reason, but need the assistance of the prophecy of Micah to actually find Jesus. This is the first lesson we can learn from this Gospel, that our intellect is assisted by the light of faith (that is, revelation) which ultimately leads us to Jesus.

Next, we see that the Magi come bearing gifts that honor Jesus as King and offer Him worship as God. On the other hand, Herod and those in Jerusalem are "greatly troubled," and ultimately Herod attempts to murder the infant Jesus. Based upon our own disposition, we can see the coming of Jesus as a gift or as a threat to our way of life. If we are comfortable living in darkness and attached to our sinful way of life, the light of Jesus is nothing but a threat to our happiness which we should seek to eliminate. We should, instead, long for change and continual conversion, remaining docile to the voice of the Lord who will lead us to greater joy and peace.

Finally, the last lesson we can learn from today's readings comes from the first reading from Isaiah. If we have received the light of faith and are committed to conversion, then we are conformed to Jesus as the light of the nations, and we become beacons of light to all people. Isaiah is speaking to those who receive the light of the Messiah when he says, "Arise, shine forth!" If we are faithful in welcoming and receiving this light of Christ, we will begin to reflect that light and our lives and actions will proclaim the Gospel. Living out this light is an invitation to all people to share in the life of Christ, who gives us every good gift.

God Bless You, *Fr. Jack*

MASS TIMES

Monday	12:15 PM
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	12:15 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM

9:00 AM Mass Livestreamed here.

Recitation of the Rosary is held after daily Mass, Wednesday through Saturday.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

Monday 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:45 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Friday, 1:00 PM through
Saturday, 7:45 AM

CONFESSION

Monday	11:00 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM
Friday	11:00 AM
Saturday	3:30 PM

WE EXIST TO FORM
A COMMUITY OF SPIRIT-FILLED
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES OF JESUS

Parish Mission – PREACHING SERIES

This month, at our weekend Masses, we will explore our Parish Mission Statement through a three-part preaching series. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our parish as Fr. Dan unpacks these pillars, that we may grow ever more convicted of the Lord's continual invitation into a deeper relationship with Him and a life of discipleship.

SPIRIT-FILLED	MISSIONARY	COMMUNITY
JANUARY 10TH & 11TH	JANUARY 17TH & 18TH	JANUARY 24TH & 25TH

Epiphany Home Blessing

The Epiphany Blessing of the Home is a time-honored tradition for Catholics throughout the world, symbolizing an open invitation and desire for the Lord's presence and blessing over the household (or workplace) throughout the coming year. We offer blessed chalk and prayer sheets in the Vestibule and Gathering Spaces and invite you to ask the Lord's blessing on your own home this Christmas season!

SJ Beat

THIS WEEK

HOLY BREWS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH
7pm
Ypsi Alehouse
124 Pearl St #100
Ypsilanti, MI

Join us at Ypsi Alehouse for casual, faith-centered conversations over pints and a peck. Bring your questions, bring a friend and join us for a talk about the things that matter most. The evening will feature our very own Fr. Dan Kogut, who will share insights on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, followed by a lively Q&A.

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING COMMUNITY LIFE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

EXODUS 90 INFORMATIONAL MEETING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH
after the 8AM Mass until Noon
downstairs in the PLC

WORSHIP NIGHT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH
6:30 - 7:30pm
in the sanctuary

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH
after the 8am Mass
downstairs in the PLC

FEBRUARY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 5PM TO
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 7:45AM
in the Adoration Chapel

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

CAMPUS MINISTRY, SEEK 2026

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CAMPUS MINISTRY AT SEEK

As we begin the new year, our Campus Ministry staff and students will be attending SEEK, the FOCUS conference, from January 1–5. SEEK is a powerful gathering of thousands of college students, missionaries, and leaders from across the country, all coming together to encounter Christ more deeply and to be renewed in mission.

During these days, we will be spending time in prayer and worship, attending talks and formation sessions, accompanying students, building relationships with other campus ministries, and seeking the Lord's guidance for the work He is doing on our campus in the year ahead.

We humbly ask for your prayers! For safe travels, open hearts, deeper conversion, clarity in discernment, and renewed zeal to bring the Gospel back to campus. Please pray especially that our students may encounter Jesus personally and respond generously to His call in their lives. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

SOME OF OUR STUDENTS AT SEEK IN 2025

COULD YOU SAY A QUICK PRAYER FOR US?

AN OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY, OR PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL GOES A LONG WAY!

EXODUS 90 INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Step into a challenge built for men seeking real discipline, accountability, and spiritual freedom. All men of the parish are invited—and encouraged—to bring a brother in Christ who's ready to grow. Come learn what Exodus 90 is all about and how it can strengthen your walk with God.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH
AFTER THE 8AM MASS UNTIL NOON
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PLC

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

CHRIST THE KING WOMEN'S RETREAT

Women of St. John the Baptist, you are warmly invited to join the women of Christ the King for this year's women's retreat featuring keynote speaker Dr. Mary Healy. Step away from the busyness of daily life and be renewed as we rediscover the beauty, dignity, and vocation of womanhood rooted in God's design. Through inspiring talks, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, and meaningful fellowship, come be encouraged in who you are and empowered to live your God-given purpose—for such a time as this.

FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026
CHRIST THE KING
ANN ARBOR, MI

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!

COMMITTED ADORERS NEEDED FOR WEEKLY ADORATION

Please consider volunteering to spend an hour with the Lord in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Open time slots are:

- 12 PM TUESDAYS
- 4PM WEDNESDAYS
- 2 PM FRIDAYS
- WE ALWAYS NEED MORE ADORERS FOR FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

CALL SR. MARY TO SIGN UP, 734-483-3360

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SNOW REMOVAL

If you or your teen would be open to coming to the church after a snowfall we would really appreciate your help! No commitment required - we will contact you when we need help and be very happy when you can make it. There are a lot of entrances to the church and we want to keep everyone safe.

FOR INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT SR. MARY: SRMARY@YPSICATHOLIC.ORG

WAITING FOR JESUS

Advent is a time when we reflect on waiting for Jesus. However, have you ever thought about those who might be waiting for YOU to bring Him to them?

Isolated members of our Catholic community in care and correctional facilities need Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to visit and share Christ's presence.

No experience is needed—training is provided, with flexible times and locations. Contact Michelle Kazanjian at 734.971.9781 x338 or mkazanjian@ccwcwashtenaw.org.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

"WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES" SERIES

December 29th.....Holiday Time Off

January 5th.....Catholic Moral Teaching (Forming conscience, natural law, commandments 1-3)

January 12th.....Catholic Moral Teaching (commandments 4-10)

January 19th.....Catholic Social Teaching

MONDAYS AT 6:30
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PLC

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE.

SACRAMENTS

MATRIMONY
Couples should contact the parish office to inquire about Marriage Formation as soon as they are engaged.

BAPTISM
Parents are required to complete preparation and must be registered parishioners for at least three months. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office for more information.

LAY MINISTER INFORMATION
If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or wish to update your schedule preferences, please submit your request by email to schedule@ypsicatholic.org.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS
Call or visit the parish office to ask for a special day. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. The stipend for a Mass intention is $10. Mass cards are also available.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the parish office for more information.

FUNERALS
Please call the parish office for more information.

OFFICE PHONE
734-483-3360

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR…

Katie (O'Toole) Davis
Kailyn Fitzgerald
Kris Kapcia
Ann Marie Rusiniak
Dorothy Chan
Philip Philipose
Shibu Philipose
Gemma Almendras
Jake Meyer
Pfc. Carter Hornbeck
Caroline Stramecky
David Sell
Margaret Trapp
Rebecca McKenzie

Please call the parish office if you would like to add a name to the intercessions for healing or for those serving in the armed forces. Names remain on the list for four weeks unless you request an extension.

Our Book of Petitions is also available in the Gathering Space, and these intentions are prayed for at every Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH
12:15 PM: †Jeff Rombach
Requested by Dennis and Sharon Zielinski

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6TH
6:00 PM: †Quinn Moffett
Requested by Mary Moffett

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH
8:00 AM: Intetnions of Fr. Dan Kogut
Requested by Mary Tillotson

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8TH
9:00 AM: †Howard P. Lenhardt Jr.
Requested by KofC 3230

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH
12:15 PM: Increase in Vocations

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH
8:00 AM: Intentions of Katie Pawelski
Requested by Ted Koehler

5 PM: †Sarah Hermosillo
Requested by Alesia Hermosillo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH
9:00 AM:

11 AM: People of the Parish

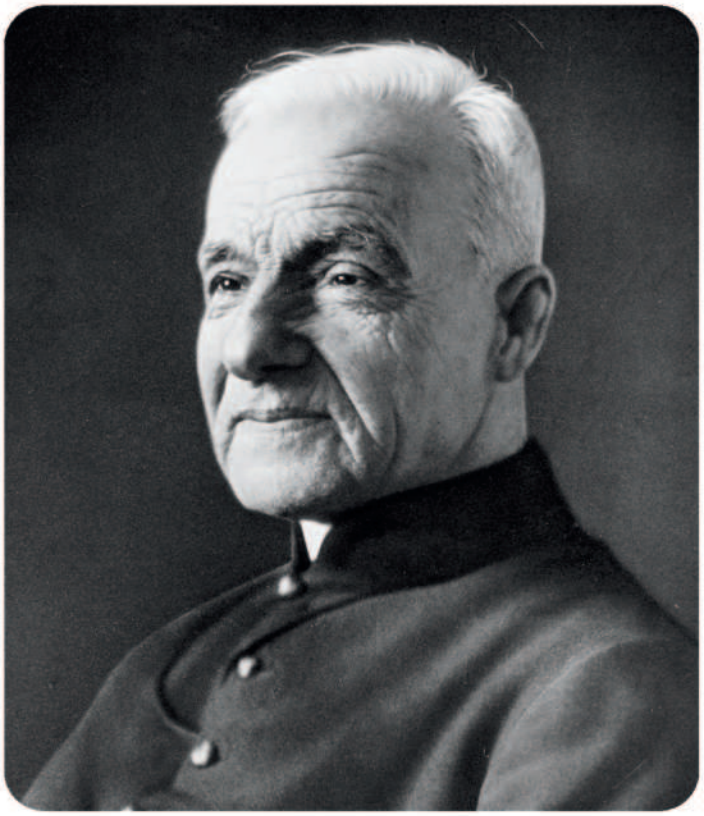
SJB

GIVE ONLINE
ypsicatholic.org/give

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO GIVE ONLINE

St. Andre Bessette

JANUARY 6TH, 2025



Alfred Bessette was born on August 9, 1845, in Quebec and lived in the town of Mont-Saint-Grégoire until he was orphaned at the age of twelve. At such an early age, he had to work to support himself, but his strong faith and devotion to St. Joseph helped him get through his difficulties. He suffered with poor health from birth, which interfered with his ability to work as much as others. With the multiple jobs he attained, they all lasted only for brief periods of time. He also had very little formal education and was mostly illiterate.

By the time he was twenty-five, he thought about entering religious life. He was particularly interested in joining the Congregation of the Holy Cross, the order that founded the University of Notre Dame. His childhood pastor sent him to them with a note saying, "I am sending you a saint..." At first, the superior was hesitant to accept Alfred, given his poor health and illiteracy, but after the bishop intervened, he was accepted into the Congregation. Upon entering, he took the name André, and he was given the role of doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal.

André remained the doorkeeper for forty years. Throughout the years, he encountered many people as he greeted them or tended to their needs. With this familiar face present every day, people began to tell him their sufferings. André prayed with people, and it was evident that he had the gift of healing. Many who came to him went away healed. Word spread about his gifts and eventually people flocked to see him to the point where he was given permission to see all the sick people across the street from the school.

Despite the crowds and recognition that André received, he remained humble and attributed all the healings that happened through his prayers to the power of St. Joseph's intercession. He desired for more people to grow in devotion to St. Joseph, and one of the ways he helped in doing so was by constructing a shrine. He earned money to build it by giving haircuts for five cents, and a few years later he made $200, enough to start. In the early stages, it was basically a roofless hut, but over time it was gradually updated. Many pilgrims came to visit and plans to turn it into a basilica eventually came to fruition. In 1909, André was assigned as the full-time caretaker of the shrine. Long lines formed every day just to see him. On January 6, 1937, André died. Despite the frigid Quebec winter, over a million pilgrims came to visit his body within the first week of his death. To this day, St. Joseph's Oratory attracts over two million pilgrims every year, and many people have walked away healed after their visit.

St. André Bessette is the patron saint of family caregivers, the rejected, and the sick and marginalized.

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE
JANUARY 10TH & JANUARY 11TH

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM

USHERS

Jeff Decker	Shawn Lenhardt	Fred Hall
Josh Reszke	Jude Lussier	Alex Uram
Need Volunteer	Angela Parrinello	Steve Uram
Need Volunteer	Christine Sullivan	Aimee Uram-Taylor

GREETERS

Rebecca Thomason	Sharon Zielinski	Need Volunteer
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer

LECTORS

Tom Moffit	Rebecca Lussier	Gary Czupinski
Mike Weathers	Maralee Meyer	Shelly Czupinski

SACRISTAN

ADULT:	ADULT:	ADULT:
Toni Esteva	Rachel Boudreaux	Judy Ramirez
JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer

ALTAR SERVERS

Liam Netsch	Damien Lussier	Walter Reister
Jordan Wells	Henry Meyer	Jayden Smith
Need Volunteer	Jack Netsch	Michael Stolarski

OFFICE HOURS AND INFO

PARISH OFFICE

411 Florence Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.483.3360
www.ypsicatholic.org

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00)

CEMETERY

1400 North River Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.368.7949

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